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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch.)

NORTH AMERICA

A Guide to the National Parks of America. Compiled and edited by Edward F. Allen. 286 pp. Maps, ills. McBride, Nast & Co., New York, 1915. \$1. 6 x 4.

The book gives an excellent condensed statement of information needed by the tourist as to transportation in the parks, hotels, excursions, tours, stop-over privileges, etc., with the cost of each item and other practical suggestions, including the special interest of various features of our national playgrounds.

The Scandinavian Element in the United States. By Kendric C. Babcock. 223 pp. Index. *Univ. of Illinois Studies in the Social Sciences*, Vol. 3, 1914, No. 3. Urbana, Ill. \$1.15. 10 x 6½.

The work gives the reader a sense of failure to make out any essentially Scandinavian element in the United States. This may be a mark of the book's success. Dr. Babcock finds the Scandinavian more "American" than any except the British racial components of our people. They do not constitute a distinct group among the people. Each family has its history, that goes back to the old land. Their thrift, love of land and labor and freedom, their knowledge of agriculture and their large families have made them prosper, just as they have made them desirable citizens; but prosperity is not of any one class, not distinctive. It is a fair question whether so formidable a work was necessary to reach a conclusion so simple. An interesting minor point established is the superiority of the thinly settled rural districts, as a school of politics for the foreigner, over the city. Where he almost exclusively settles the land he has perforce to organize its government. MARK JEFFERSON.

The Rocky Mountain Wonderland. By Enos A. Mills. xiii and 363 pp. Map, ills., index. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1915. \$1.75. 8 x 5½.

Most of the book deals with nature and the author's experiences in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. He says he has visited on foot every part of the state, in every season of the year, and has come into contact with the wild life of the heights in every kind of weather. He gives general directions for mountain climbing and writes of the bighorn sheep (which he considers the most daring acrobat of the animal world) and of his own adventures among snow-slides and in deep snows. He tells of the "return horses," trained to go home when set free by the rider. The grizzly bear, the beaver, how animals survive the winter snows, renewing the forest after it has been swept by fire, conservation of scenery, and the Rocky Mountain National Park are among his other topics. The book, written in charming style, radiates the freshness and greatness of the out-of-doors. W. G. BURROUGHS.

Triangulation in Alabama and Mississippi. By Walter F. Reynolds. 71 pp. Maps, index. *U. S. Coast and Geodetic Surv. Spec. Public No. 24*. 1915. 11½ x 9.

The scheme of triangulation extending from Calais, Maine, and following the Appalachian Mountains and the Gulf Coast to New Orleans, La., is commonly known as the Eastern Oblique Arc.

The field work on this arc was begun in 1833 and after many interruptions